GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5702
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2000
DEVELOPMENT OF ALLOPATHIC DRUGS
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major allopathic drugs developed in the country during the last five years, Sector-wise;

(b) the estimated cost incurred on the development of those drugs; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve research and development of drugs in India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) Development of drugs is an R&D activity. According to the information available with the office of the Drugs Controller General of (India), who is responsible for giving approval for marketing such drugs, 41 allopathic drugs developed in the country have been approved in the last 5 years. Out of these 3 drugs were developed under Govt. Sector while the remaining 38 drugs were developed from basic stage in R&D Units of the Private Sector.

(b) The estimated cost incurred on the development of these drugs would vary from drug to drug and from unit to unit. The estimated cost of the 2 drugs developed by the CDRI in the Govt. Sector is Rs.3.5 crores.

(c) To improve research and development of drugs in India, Government had recently set up Pharma R&D Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mashelkar to recommend measures to strengthen the research and development capability of the pharmaceutical industry in the country and to identify the support required by Indian pharmaceutical companies to undertake domestic R&D. This Committee has made several recommendations which interalia include several fiscal and non-fiscal measures for promoting R&D and development of drugs in India. These recommendations are under consideration.